

## **BOARD OF EQUALIZATION RULES FOR TAX APPEALS**

California Code of Regulations  
Title 18. Public Revenues  
Division 2.1. State Board of Equalization – Rules for Tax Appeals  
***Chapter 5: General Board Hearing Procedures<sup>1</sup>***

### **ARTICLE 7: CORRESPONDENCE, PUBLIC HEARING RECORDS, AND COPIES**

#### **5573. WAIVER OF CONFIDENTIALITY.**

Oral hearings are generally conducted during open session at public meetings held in accordance with Government Code sections 11120 and 11123.

(a) Appeals from Actions of the Franchise Tax Board. The filing of an appeal under chapter 4 constitutes a waiver of the appellant's right to confidentiality with regard to all of the information provided to the Board by the appellant or the Franchise Tax Board, including information contained in a hearing summary prepared under section 5444.

(b) Sales and Use Tax, Timber Yield Tax, and Special Taxes and Fees. The filing of a written request for an oral hearing before the Board under chapter 2 constitutes a waiver of the taxpayer's right to confidentiality with regard to information provided to or obtained by the Board that is actually disclosed on the transcript of the taxpayer's oral hearing before the Board or included in the hearing summary prepared for the taxpayer's oral hearing before the Board.

(c) Property Taxes.

(1) A taxpayer waives its right to confidentiality when the taxpayer:

(A) Files a petition described in section 5310, subdivision (a)(1), (3), or (4) of chapter 3, and submits a written request for an oral hearing before the Board; or

(B) Files an application described in section 5310, subdivision (a)(2) of chapter 3.

(2) The waiver described in paragraph (1) of this subdivision only applies to:

(A) The taxpayer's petition or application filed under chapter 3 of this division, and any documents filed in support of the petition or application;

(B) Any briefs filed in response to or in support of the taxpayer's petition or application, and any documents filed in support of such briefs;

(C) The hearing summary or summary decision prepared for the taxpayer's oral hearing before the Board; and

(D) Any other information provided to or obtained by the Board that is actually disclosed on the transcript of the taxpayer's oral hearing before the Board.

(d) Effective Date of Waiver.

(1) A waiver described in subdivision (b) or (c) of this section is effective on the date the Board issues its first Public Agenda Notice providing public notice of the date and time of the taxpayer's oral hearing to which the waiver applies.

(2) A waiver described in subdivision (b) or (c) may be rescinded by the taxpayer at any time before it becomes effective, if the taxpayer agrees to waive its oral hearing before the Board. At the time a taxpayer waives an oral hearing under this paragraph, the taxpayer may request that the Board decide the taxpayer's matter on the basis of the written record on file without an oral hearing or dismiss the taxpayer's matter.

(e) Exceptions.

(1) Protection from Identity Theft.

(A) The waivers described in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) do not apply to any person's address, telephone number, social security number, federal identification number, or other account number, and such

---

<sup>1</sup> Editorial change renaming subchapters to subarticles (Register 2008, No. 13.).

information will not be provided to the public in response to a request made pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code, §§ 6250 et seq.).

(B) Nothing in this paragraph prohibits any party to a Board hearing, Board Members, or Board Staff from referring to information described in this paragraph in briefs filed under this division, or in a manner that will not disclose any person's actual address, telephone number, social security number, federal identification number, or bank account number at an oral hearing conducted during an open session at a public meeting.

(2) Closed Session. The waivers described in subdivisions (b) and (c) do not apply to:

(A) Information that is only discussed during a portion of an oral hearing conducted during a closed session held pursuant to Government Code section 11126, and the procedures contained in section 5574; and

(B) The portion of a hearing summary, if any, containing information that is only scheduled to be discussed during a closed session.

Note: Authority cited: California Constitution, article XIII, section 11; Government Code sections 15606, 15640; Revenue and Taxation Code sections 251, 1840, 7051, 8251, 9251, 11651, 13170, 30451, 32451, 38701, 40171, 41128, 43501, 45851, 46601, 50152, 55301, 60601.

Reference: California Constitution, article XIII, section 11; Government Code sections 6254, 11124.1, 11125.1, 15606, 15619, 15640; Revenue and Taxation Code sections 251, 743, 833, 1840, 7051, 7056, 8251, 8255, 9251, 9255, 11651, 11655, 13170, 19542, 19545, 30451, 30455, 32451, 32455, 38701, 38705, 38706, 40171, 41128, 43501, 45851, 46601, 50152, 55301, 60601, 60609.

History: 1. New section adopted 9-12-2007; effective 2-6-2008.